

ENTOMOLOGISTS ARE HUMAN BEINGS

During the early part of 1920 a group of young entomologists of the United States published and circulated an anonymous four page circular calling attention to the fact that younger entomologists engaged in research and teaching were greatly underpaid. As a result many promising entomologists, after working for several years and being rewarded by only beggarly increases, were forced by economic conditions to seek employment in business. Their positions were filled by new men fresh from college who accepted the low salaries with high expectations, only to find within three to five years that their economic positions were almost stationary and that the well-paid positions were mostly filled by men who kept them for long periods of time.

The circular was addressed principally to the heads of departments of entomology, of whom many were, for various reasons, singularly indifferent to the monetary needs of their assistants. At that time salaries of 1,000 and 1,200 dollars per year were not unusual for assistants and increases were slow and uncertain. Considering the facts in the case the plea of the men, for increased recognition as human beings who deserved a living wage, was written with remarkable restraint.—H. B. W.

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